

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

3535 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA

June 21, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL: Don Thompson, Ben Babin, Anthony “Tony” Rouchon, Jerry Thibeau, David Hoover, Willie George Lee, James “Jimmy” Little, Terry Louque, Larry Thomas, Kenneth “Wade” Welborn

MEMBERS ABSENT: William “Carey” Jenkins

Vacant Seat(s) St. Helena Parish

NOTE: Lionel Bailey, Sr. entered the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

ALSO PRESENT: ARBC Executive Director Dietmar Rietschier, ARBC Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau, ARBC Legal Counsel Larry Bankston

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Thompson.
2. Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comments on Agenda Items: Jessica Miles, with Volkert, updated the Board on the status of the Amite River Weir.
4. Minutes
The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover, second by Lee to approve the May 2016 regular meeting minutes as presented.
5. Financial Statement Report
 - Rouchon presented to the Board the May 2016 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Babin, second by Lee to approve the May 2016 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements.
 - Amendment #1 - Administrative Budget of 2015/16. There were no public comments. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover, second by Rouchon to adopt the Administrative Budget of 2015/16, as presented.
6. Report by Executive Director - Discussed the following items:
 - The Comite River Diversion Canal Project has been placed in Capital Outlay HB 2. \$15,000,000 in Priority 2, \$72,000,000 in Priority 5. DOTD has approximately \$3,000,000 remaining for the CRDC Project.
 - ADV-14, ADV-15, ADV-17 Cost-share: The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thibeau, second by Hoover to approve paying the invoices as follows: ADV-14, \$20,572.06 and ADV-15, \$50,28350, and ADV-17, \$181,417.75.
 - Approve Survey of Tracts M3-80 & Tract 41, and M3-115: The Board unanimously approved a motion by Babin, second by Rouchon to approve said surveys.
 - NOTE: Lionel Bailey, Sr. entered the meeting at 6:23 p.m.
 - DOTD Report: DOTD Real Estate is wrapping up on the various activities. For Tracts 41 & M3-80, McHugh Land Company and M3-115, Blanchard; DOTD is waiting for the new property survey and description from ARBC for each of the properties. An appraisal for ADV-18, Bourque, is under USACE review. An engineering authorization letter for utility relocation had been sent out to the Utility Companies.
7. Report by ARBC Legal Counsel: Barton Property: Tract 39 – The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Babin to approve expending additional funds, not to exceed \$200,000 above the 50% cost share, if the DOTD has a shortfall of money to purchase said property.
8. Old Business
 - Election of Officers: The Nominating Committee nominated Babin as President, Thibeau as Vice President, Hoover as Finance Chairman, and Executive Secretary, Toni Guitrau, as Board Secretary. No nominations were made from the floor. The Board unanimously approved a motion of election by acclamation by Louque second by Hoover, on the unopposed position of Babin as President. The Board unanimously approved a motion of election by acclamation by Louque second by Rouchon, on the unopposed position of Thibeau as Vice President. The Board unanimously approved a motion of election by acclamation by Rouchon second by Lee, on the unopposed position of Hoover as Finance Chairman. The Board unanimously approved a motion of election by acclamation by Babin second by Lee, on the unopposed position of Guitrau as Board Secretary.
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Babin to advertise the hunting lease bids since the current leases expire in August 2016.
9. New Business
 - Adopt the millage rate(s) for the tax year 2016: Resolution 1126. As there were no public comments, a motion was made by Rouchon, second by Thibeau to approve Resolution No. 1126, as presented, to adopt the millage rate of 2.410 for the tax year 2016. Results were as follows:
YEAS: Don Thompson, Ben Babin, Anthony “Tony” Rouchon, Lionel Bailey, Jerry Thibeau, David Hoover, Willie George Lee, James “Jimmy” Little, Terry Louque, Larry Thomas, Kenneth “Wade” Welborn
NAYS: None
ABSENT: William “Carey” Jenkins
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ABSTAIN: None

- Legal Contract – Bankston & Associates: The Board unanimously approved a motion by Bailey, second by Hoover to approve the two year contract, with no increase of fees, with Bankston & Associates, as presented.
- House Rental Committee: Thompson created a House Rental Committee as follows: Babin, Thompson and Welborn to work in conjunction with the Finance Committee.

10. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover, second by Thibeau to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

/s/ Ben Babin

Ben Babin, ARBC President

Date: July 19, 2016

/s/ Toni B. Guitrau

Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary